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**DECLARATION FOR UTILITY OR
DESIGN
PATENT APPLICATION
(37 CFR 1.63)**

Declaration Submitted with Initial Filing

OR

Declaration Submitted after Initial Filing (surcharge (37 CFR 1.16 (e)) required)

Attorney Docket Number	P03958US1
First Named Inventor	Stephen Cate et al.
COMPLETE IF KNOWN	
Application Number	09/674,399
Filing Date	10/31/2000
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	Daniel Stemmer

As the below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, mailing address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original and first inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

METHOD AND MEANS FOR FILLING NATURAL CASING SAUSAGES

(Title of the Invention)

the specification of which

is attached hereto

OR

was filed on (MM/DD/YYYY) 10/31/2000 as United States Application Number or PCT International

Application Number PCT/US00/02028 and was amended on (MM/DD/YYYY) 01/26/2000 (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56, including for continuation-in-part applications, material information which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or (f), or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application Number(s)	Country	Foreign Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Priority Not Claimed	Certified Copy Attached? YES	Certified Copy Attached? NO
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<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Additional foreign application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto:

[Page 1 of 2]

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DECLARATION — Utility or Design Patent Application

Direct all correspondence to:

Customer Number
or Bar Code Label

34082

OR

Correspondence address below

Name

Address

City

State

ZIP

Country

Telephone

Fax

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

NAME OF SOLE OR FIRST INVENTOR : A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor

100
Given Name Stephen H.
(first and middle [if any])

Cate
Family Name _____
or Surname _____

Inventor's
Signature


Date 10-31-02

Johnston
Residence: City



Iowa
State

U.S.
Country

U.S.
Citizenship

6016 Redbud Court

Mailing Address

Johnston
City

Iowa
State

50131

U.S.
Country

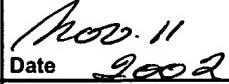
NAME OF SECOND INVENTOR: A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor

200
Given Name Marcellinus F.
(first and middle [if any])



Ottow
Family Name _____
or Surname _____

Inventor's
Signature



Date

Rosmalen
Residence: City



Netherlands
State

The Netherlands
Country

NE
Citizenship

Anna Blamanstr 66

Mailing Address

5242 EG Rosmalen
City

Netherlands
State

The Netherlands
Country

Additional inventors are being named on the 3 supplemental Additional Inventor(s) sheet(s) PTO/SB/02A attached hereto.

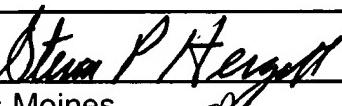
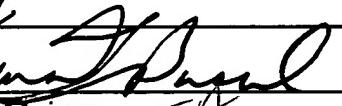
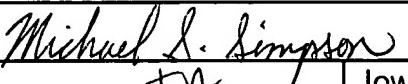
PTO/SB/02A (10-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0032

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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DECLARATION**ADDITIONAL INVENTOR(S)
Supplemental Sheet
Page 1 of 3**

Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any:		<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor	
Given <u>Steven P.</u> Name		Family Name <u>Hergott</u>	
Inventor's Signature 			Date <u>11-3-02</u>
Residence: City <u>West Des Moines</u>	Iowa State <u>JA</u>	U.S. Country <u>U.S.</u>	Citizenship
5113 Wistful Vista Drive Mailing Address			
Mailing Address			
City <u>West Des Moines</u>	Iowa State	ZIP <u>50265</u>	U.S. Country
Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any:		<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor	
Given <u>Vincent L.</u> Name		Family Name <u>Basile, II</u>	
Inventor's Signature 			Date <u>10/31/02</u>
Residence: City <u>West Des Moines</u>	Iowa State <u>JA</u>	U.S. Country	U.S. Citizenship
233 - 24th Street Mailing Address			
Mailing Address			
City <u>West Des Moines</u>	Iowa State	ZIP <u>50265</u>	U.S. Country
Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any:		<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor	
Given <u>Michael S.</u> Name		Family Name <u>Simpson</u>	
Inventor's Signature 			Date <u>10/31/02</u>
Residence: City <u>Norwalk</u>	Iowa State <u>JA</u>	U.S. Country	U.S. Citizenship
4935 Wakonda Drive Mailing Address			
Mailing Address			
City <u>Norwalk</u>	Iowa State	ZIP <u>50211</u>	U.S. Country

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 21 minutes to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

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DECLARATION**ADDITIONAL INVENTOR(S)
Supplemental Sheet
Page 2 of 3**

Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any:		<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor	
Given Name <u>David</u>		Family Name or Surname <u>Hamblin</u>	
Inventor's Signature	<u>David Hamblin</u>		Date <u>Oct 31 2002</u>
Residence: City <u>Norwalk</u>	Iowa State <u>IA</u>	U.S. Country <u>U.S.</u>	Citizenship <u>U.S.</u>
5213 Clearwater Drive Mailing Address			
Mailing Address			
City <u>Norwalk</u>	Iowa State <u>IA</u>	ZIP <u>50211</u>	U.S. Country <u>U.S.</u>
Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any:		<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor	
Given Name <u>Kenneth L.</u>		Family Name or Surname <u>Lebsack</u>	
Inventor's Signature <u>Kenneth L Lebsack</u>			Date <u>2002-10-31</u>
Residence: City <u>Ankeny</u>	Iowa State <u>IA</u>	U.S. Country <u>U.S.</u>	Citizenship <u>U.S.</u>
914 NE 15th Street Mailing Address			
Mailing Address			
City <u>Ankeny</u>	Iowa State <u>IA</u>	ZIP <u>50021</u>	U.S. Country <u>U.S.</u>
Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any:		<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor	
Given Name <u>Rudolf P.T.</u>		Family Name or Surname <u>Enklaar</u>	
Inventor's Signature <u>J.H.C.</u>			Date <u>2002-11-07</u>
Residence: City <u>Woerden</u>	Netherlands State <u>NL</u>	The Netherlands Country <u>The Netherlands</u>	NE Citizenship <u>NE</u>
Blazer 6, 3448 WD Mailing Address			
Mailing Address			
City <u>Woerden</u>	Netherlands State <u>Netherlands</u>	ZIP <u>ZIP</u>	The Netherlands Country <u>The Netherlands</u>

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DECLARATION**ADDITIONAL INVENTOR(S)
Supplemental Sheet
Page 3 of 3**

Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any:		<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor	
Given Name <u>Jay D.</u>		Family Name or Surname <u>Thomas</u>	
Inventor's Signature	<u>Jay D. Thomas</u>		
Residence: City <u>Danville</u>	State <u>CA</u>	U.S. Country <u>California</u>	U.S. Citizenship
23 Volterra Court Mailing Address			
Mailing Address			
City <u>Danville</u>	State <u>California</u>	ZIP <u>94526</u>	U.S. Country <u>ZIP</u>
Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any:		<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor	
Given Name		Family Name or Surname	
Inventor's Signature		Date	
Residence: City	State	Country	Citizenship
Mailing Address			
Mailing Address			
City	State	ZIP	Country
Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any:		<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor	
Given Name		Family Name or Surname	
Inventor's Signature		Date	
Residence: City	State	Country	Citizenship
Mailing Address			
Mailing Address			
City	State	ZIP	Country

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 21 minutes to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

Applicant or Patentee: Stephen H. Cate, Marcellinus Franciscus Ottow, Steven P. Hergott, Vincent L. Basile, II, Michael S. Simpson, David S. Hamblin, Ken L. Lebsack, Rudolph P. Enklaar, Jay D. Thomas

Serial N. or Patent No:

Filed or Issued:

For: METHOD AND MEANS FOR FILLING NATURAL CASING SAUSAGES

VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS (37 CFR 1.9(f) AND 1.27(c)) - SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN

I hereby declare that I am

- the owner of the small business concern identified below:
 an official of the small business concern empowered to act on behalf of the concern identified below:

NAME OF CONCERN Townsend Engineering Company

ADDRESS OF CONCERN 2425 Hubbell Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa 50317

I hereby declare that the above-identified small business concern qualifies as a small business concern as defined in 18 CFR 121.3-18, and reproduced in 37 CFR 1.9(d), for purposes of paying reduced fees under Section 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, in that the number of employees of the concern, including those of its affiliates, does not exceed 500 persons. For purposes of this statement, (1) the number of employees of the business concern is the average over the previous fiscal year of the concern of the persons employed on a full-time, part-time or temporary basis during each of the pay periods of the fiscal year, and (2) concerns are affiliates of each other when either, directly or indirectly, one concern controls or has the power to control the other, or a third party or parties controls or has the power to control both.

I hereby declare that rights under contract or law have been conveyed to and remain with the small business concern identified above with regard to the invention, entitled METHOD AND MEANS FOR FILLING NATURAL CASING SAUSAGES by inventor(s) Stephen H. Cate, Marcellinus Franciscus Ottow, Steven P. Hergott, Vincent L. Basile, II, Michael S. Simpson, David S. Hamblin, Ken L. Lebsack, Rudolph P. Enklaar, Jay D. Thomas, described in

the specification filed herewith.

application Serial No. _____, filed _____.

Patent No. _____, issued _____.

If the rights held by the above identified small business concern are not exclusive, each individual, concern or organization having rights in the invention is listed below* and no rights to the invention are held by any person, other than the inventor, who would not qualify as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) if that person made the invention, or by any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

*NOTE: Separate verified statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention according to their status as small entities. (37 CFR 1.27).

FULL NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

INDIVIDUAL

SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of payment, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28(b)).

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

NAME AND TITLE OF PERSON SIGNING Ald. Larson, Vice President - Treasurer

ADDRESS OF PERSON SIGNING 2425 Hubbell Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa 50317

SIGNATURE Ald. Larson

DATE Aug 1, 1999